

Maine Board of Corrections

FY 10 & FY 11 County Jail Boarding Rates For Discussion Purposes by the Board June 26, Meeting, Belfast, Maine

The following describes the assumptions used by the Board's Needs/Inventory Focus Group to estimate the costs (boarding) of inmate populations redistributed to other facilities as a result of major mission changes in Franklin, Oxford & Waldo counties during FY 10 & FY 11. Additionally, the Corrections Working Group has discussed the option of limiting boarding costs among those counties boarding in other counties without mission changes to the receiving facilities' marginal cost in FY10 and eliminating boarding rates all together in FY11.

Marginal Costs: Marginal costs are those costs resulting from commodities, consumable and fixed costs necessary to support the addition of an inmate(s) to a facility's average daily population when there are existing beds available for use (within the facilities rated operational capacity) and staffing already exist to supervise the additional inmate(s) in a housing unit or POD. (Food, clothing, bedding, medical, water, sewage, etc)

1. "Boarding Rates" for Counties supporting Mission Changes

FY10 Budget Assumptions for Mission Changes: The Inventory/Needs Focus Group recommended that the marginal cost be used to estimate the increased cost to a facility where inmates are being redistributed based on the receiving facilities marginal cost. Based on this recommendation, the Budget Focus Group determined the marginal cost for the receiving facilities based on their FY10 budget submissions and their average daily population. The receiving facilities are:

- Cumberland County Jail at a marginal daily rate of \$20.69 with an estimated increase in ADP of 35 sentenced inmates from Oxford & Androscoggin;
- Androscoggin County at a marginal rate of \$14.54 with an estimated increase in ADP of 20 Pretrial inmates from Oxford County;
- Two Bridges Regional Jail at a marginal rate of \$26.22 with an estimated increase in ADP of 36 Pretrial & sentenced inmates from Waldo County; and
- Somerset County at a marginal rate of \$20.53 with an estimated increase in ADP of 26 Pretrial and sentenced inmates from Franklin County.

Recommendations of Funding Source and Process for Making Payment in FY 10 for Mission Changes: The total estimated cost for the redistribution of these inmates to the receiving facilities, based on their individual marginal cost, was \$894,714. The Inventory/Needs

Focus Group recommended that the cost to redistribute (boarding) these inmates be netted from the total savings resulting from the mission changes of \$1,784,425. Funds earmarked for Mission Change Boarding funds should be placed in the Board's Investment Fund. Each individual receiving facility will submit monthly invoices, based on their above marginal cost and the actual number of boarding days by inmate, for payment by the Board's financial agent from the Investment Fund. This process will provide the Board with the actual boarding days and cost for each receiving facility. This information will be critical to the Board in FY 11 in determining the actual increased cost to be included in receiving facilities FY11 budget if the Board should decide to eliminate boarding among counties with regards to continuing mission changes in FY11.

The Corrections Working Group reviewed and has agreed with this recommendation

2. "Boarding Rates" in FY10 & FY11, For County Jail Facilities Boarding in Other County Jail Facilities with no Mission Changes:

Several Counties experiencing overcrowding have included boarding cost in their FY10 at the boarding rates being charged by the receiving County Jail facilities with surplus capacity. These existing boarding rates range from \$60 a day per inmate to as high as \$103.

The Corrections Working Group recommends that the Board consider the option of limiting these boarding rates for county inmates to the receiving facilities marginal cost during FY10 and the elimination of boarding rates among counties in FY11. This would approach provides several system advantages:

- Allow the Board the time to phase in the elimination of one county charging another for boarding in FY11;
- Limit the boarding cost to marginal costs thereby reducing the cost to housing inmates from overcrowded jail facilities at facilities with surplus bed space;
- Assist in alleviating overcrowding in jail facilities through a more efficient use of available jail bed space;
- Bring all jail facilities within compliance with their rated capacity eliminating existing capacity variances; and
- Boarding fund requests submitted in jail FY 10 budgets could be shifted to the Board's Investment Fund and the savings realized from applying marginal rates vs. existing board rate could be redirected by the Board to invest in system improvements and enhancements during FY10/11.

Recommendations of Funding Source and Process for Making Payment in FY 10/11 for Jails with No Mission Changes: The existing line items for county to county boarding included in the FY10 jail budgets would provide the source of funds necessary to pay the marginal cost required to pay for the increased ADP resulting from inmates housed in receiving facilities. This will also produce a net saving to the Boards Investment Fund.

The Corrections Working Group recommends that the Board consider the same payment method in FY 10 presented above for facilities with mission changes. Boarding rates would be eliminated in FY 11.